

*Tewkesbury*

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
on the  
**HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH**  
for the year 1957

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M. L. SUTCLIFFE, T.D., D.P.H.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH





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## BOROUGH OF TEWKESBURY

Health Department,  
Municipal Offices,  
Tewkesbury.

May, 1958.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Tewkesbury.*

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the hygiene conditions and vital statistics of the Borough for the year 1957. It is largely the work of the Public Health Inspector and is compiled to conform with Articles 6(3) and 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and it incorporates the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 1/58, dated 13th January, 1958.

The Vital Statistics do not appear very satisfactory but where the numbers are so small, the superficial picture cannot be expected to be accurate. For example, in 1956 the illegitimate infant death rate was nil.

I have now had the pleasure of being Medical Officer of Health to the Borough for 21 years and, during this period, considerable advances in medicine, both curative and preventive have been made throughout the world and the need for better environmental living conditions of the population more fully recognised.

Curative medicine has been helped by the use of sulfa drugs, penicillin and the antibiotics, while preventive medicine has been helped by the increased use of immunisation against disease. In 1937 immunisation was only provided against small-pox, while in 1957 the Borough had available immunisation against small-pox, diphtheria (started by the Council in 1937), whooping cough, polio and tuberculosis, while immunisation against many other diseases is available under the National Health Service Act, 1946. From the more Public Health aspect as regards cleanliness, the use of D.D.T. and similar insecticides has been invaluable.



I think the following Borough statistics comparing my reports for 1937 and 1957 will be of interest:

	1937	1957
Population ... ..	4,357	5,500
Number of inhabited houses ...	1,375	1,808
Average number of occupants per house ... ..	3.5	3.04
Rateable Value ... ..	£23,620	£87,288
Number unemployed ... ..	204	35
	(in December)	(average per month)

### *Infectious Disease*

A complete list of infectious disease notifications since 1898 is shewn in Table 27, while figures for tuberculosis are shewn in Table 22.

The figures for diphtheria shew a very satisfactory reduction from 125 in the 20 years prior to the start of immunisation in 1937 to 11 in the 20 years after; and there have been no cases since 1946. The typhoid fevers and erysipelas also shew a marked reduction.

Other major improvements in the last 21 years have been in connection with slum clearance, new housing and the provision of new sewage works and a children's swimming pool.

I should like to thank the Mayor, the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and Councillors for the support they give to the recommendations of the Department and also to record the excellent work of your Public Health Inspector and the assistance he has been to me in the compilation of this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

MAURICE L. SUTCLIFFE.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

*Chairman:* Councillor Dr. P. K. Holding.

*Members:* The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Tewkesbury, Alderman F. H. Knight; Aldermen S. C. J. Moulder, T. G. Bannister, G. T. Troughton; Councillors B. Sweet (Deputy Mayor), W. Bettany, W. E. Lane, H. O. Workman, L. J. Nottingham, H. L. Creeth, M. G. H. Cadbury, J. O. Dixon, H. A. Allen, L. G. Marston, J. R. Griffiths.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF**

M. L. SUTCLIFFE, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health to the Tewkesbury Borough, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural Joint M.O.H. Committee, and County Divisional Medical Officer of Health for No. 5 Division (Gloucester Area Health Sub-Committee).

J. B. COMPTON M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.A., Public Health Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods and Petroleum Officer.

## **Adoptive Legislation in force in the Borough**

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75—Provision of Regulation Dustbins—adopted 21st March, 1938.

## **By-Laws**

Tents, Vans and Sheds and similar structures—adopted 1st November, 1938.

Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air—adopted 21st April, 1952.

Building—adopted 20th April, 1953.

## VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give particulars as to the births and deaths in the Borough, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found in Table 26.

**Table 1**                      **Infantile Births and Deaths**

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Com- bined Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Live Births ...	37	38	75	1	2	3	78
Still Births ...	—	4	4	—	—	—	4
Infant Deaths:							
(a) 0-4 weeks	1	2	3	—	1	1	4
(b) 4 weeks-1 yr.	—	1	1	—	—	—	1

**Table 2**                      **Deaths**

	Male	Female	Total
Total Deaths ...	35	39	74

**Table 3**                      **Birth and Death Rates**

	Borough of Tewkesbury	England and Wales
Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 pop'n	14.2	} 16.1
*Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	13.2	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	48.8	22.4
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	13.45	} 11.5
*Corrected „ „ „ „	10.09	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births ...	64.1	23.0
Death Rate of Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate live births ...	40.0	} not available
Death Rate of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births ...	33.3	
Death Rate from Puerperal Causes per 1,000 total births ...	Nil	0.47

\*NOTE.—The Corrected Birth and Death Rates are obtained by multiplying the Crude Rates by the factors 0.93 and 0.75 respectively. These factors are supplied by the Registrar-General and serve to make the Crude Rates for the Borough comparable with the Rates for the country as a whole.



## **STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH**

Area (in acres): 2,614 (including 96 acres of water).

Population (Registrar-General's estimate of Home Population mid-1957): 5,500.

Number of inhabited houses (31st December, 1957) according to rate books: 1,808.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £316 (net).

Rateable Value: £87,288.

General Rate, 1957-58: 21s. 0d. (County precept: 15s. 1d.).

### **Social Conditions and Chief Industries**

This ancient Borough, which received its first Charter in 1574, is of great interest to tourists, who bring a good deal of money into the town. It is also the shopping and educational centre for adjacent districts.

The hotel and catering trades are still probably the largest employers of labour, especially in the season. The other main employers of labour are:

Messrs. Dowty Group, approximately 300 employees.

Messrs. Blackwells Bearings, approximately 80 employees.

Borough Flour Mills, approximately 50 employees.

Bathursts Ltd., approximately 30 employees.

### **Unemployment**

Miss J. Wilkinson, Manager of the local Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied the following report:

The unemployed register showed a slight increase on that for 1956, but even so, the figures remained relatively low at a monthly average of 24.8 men, 6.25 women and 3.8 juveniles.

About 25% of the adults registered were over 50 years of age. For the most part, individual spells of unemployment have been for a few weeks only.

The general employment position remains satisfactory, although labour demands for unskilled men showed a marked decrease. Skilled men are still urgently required by the engineering industry, which continues to expand. This, of course, is a national need, not only a local one and the demand for the skilled worker by far exceeds the supply in Tewkesbury as elsewhere.

Workers from as far afield as Worcester have helped to meet the labour demands over the past year.

# **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH**

## **Laboratory Services**

The examination of pathological specimens and analyses of milk and ice cream are carried out at the laboratory of the Gloucester Royal Hospital under the Medical Research Council's Scheme. (There is no charge for this work.)

Analysis of water and sewage samples taken by this Department is carried out by the Council's Analysts, Messrs. Ellis and Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

Water analyses in respect of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board's Works are carried out by the Resident Chemist.

## **Hospitals**

The Council have no responsibility for arranging hospital treatment, except with regard to old people in need of care and attention and dealt with under the National Assistance Acts.

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over (Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Hospital Management Committee).

## **Ambulance Facilities**

There is one ambulance at the Ambulance Station in Mill Street, which has an establishment of three full-time drivers. In emergencies, ambulances from Cheltenham are available. The service is under the administration of the County Council. Infectious disease cases are transported by the Isolation Hospital's Ambulances.

## **Nursing in the Home**

The two District Nurses who undertake midwifery and general nursing in the Borough and the Parishes of Ashchurch, Tredington and Twyning work under the County Health Committee, while the local Voluntary Association supervises secretarial and nurses' welfare matters.



### **Home Help Service**

This service is administered by the County Area Health Sub-Committee. Although it does valuable work in cases of temporary sickness or incapacity, its greatest value is in caring for the aged or chronic sick. It is generally agreed that old people should be cared for in their own homes as long as possible, instead of being transferred to hostels or hospitals, not only perhaps because old people prefer their homes, but also because the cost to the taxpayers is much less. Old people, rightly or wrongly, feel that removal from their homes is a big step towards the grave.

The following types of cases are assisted and the figures on 31st December, 1957, were:

Maternity Cases	...	...	...	1
General Sickness	...	...	...	Nil
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1
Chronic Sickness or Old Age	...	...	...	16
Total				18

There were, on December 31st, 1957, 11 part-time home helps in the Borough.

### **National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951**

These Acts authorise the Council and their Medical Officer of Health to arrange for the compulsory removal of aged and sick persons living in insanitary conditions, to a hospital and residential hostel.

These cases can often be persuaded to move voluntarily as a result of action by this Department and the County Welfare Department, and during the year compulsory removal to hospital was not necessary. My remarks under "Home Help Service" are applicable to this type of case.

### **Tewkesbury Old People's Welfare Committee**

Mrs. Wyatt, the Honorary Organising Secretary, has supplied a very full report on the excellent activities of the club and the devoted work of the helpers.

It is only possible to give the headings of the various activities, which include the fortnightly Golden Hour Club, weekly meals-on-wheels, a chiropody service, a choir, concert party and hand-bell ringers, hospital and home visiting, outings, sale of work, harvest festival, and exhibition at the County Handicrafts Exhibition. On reading through the above list, I feel that the physique and endurance of the old people of Tewkesbury must be very remarkable.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

### 1. *Child Welfare Centre.*

This Centre is under the general administration of the Area Sub-Committee of the County Council, which includes members of this Council. It was held weekly in the Town Hall and is run by a voluntary Committee to whom the greatest thanks are due for its success.

Towards the end of the year the Centre moved to new premises converted from the old Boys' Grammar School. This is a great improvement.

**Table 4**

No. of Sessions	No. of First Attendances		Total No. of Attendances		
	Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1	Total
50	76	18	881	669	1644

### 2. *Tewkesbury Clinic.*

This Clinic opens as follows:

Orthopaedic Clinic: Once weekly on Tuesdays, attended by an Orthopaedic Nurse.

Ante-Natal Clinic: Weekly on Wednesday afternoons.

Speech Therapy Clinic: Weekly on Friday afternoons.

Probation Officer: Weekly Wednesday evening (5-7 p.m.).

Dental Clinic: Daily for children (school and pre-school) and for Ante- and Post-Natal Mothers. Children without an appointment ("Casuals") Monday morning.

### *Tewkesbury Hospital.*

Ophthalmic Clinic: Monthly (first Tuesday in the month).

Orthopaedic Clinic: Bi-monthly (second and fourth Mondays in the month).

Chest Clinic: The Chest Physician attends monthly on the second Thursday in the month.

## MORTUARIES

If necessary, use is made of the Tewkesbury Hospital Mortuary.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE BOROUGH

### Water Supplies

#### *Main Supplies*

Water is supplied in bulk to the Corporation by the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board, whose purification works lie within the Borough.

The water is drawn from the River Severn and is purified by means of sedimentation with alum, rapid sand filtration and chlorination.

Regular chemical and bacteriological analyses are carried out and the results shown in Table 5 were supplied by the courtesy of the Resident Chemist (J. Henderson, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.).

No complaints were received by the Department during the year.

**Table 5**

SUPPLY		Bacteriological Analyses		Chemical Analyses	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Raw river water	...	—	114	—	584
Treated river water	...	444	—	4019	—
Domestic water ...	...	749	11	1673	—

### Main Water Supplies in the Borough

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, Table 6 shows the number of houses and population served on the 31st December, 1957.

**Table 6**

No. of houses with main supply in house (estimated)	Pop.	No. of Houses served by stand pipes (estimated)	Pop.
1756	5364	46	124

New connexions made to public mains during the year: 12

Extensions of mains during the year: 500 yards

## Other Supplies

Table 7 shows the houses in the Borough without main water.

**Table 7**

Address			Water Supply	No. of houses	Population served
1 Trinity Walk	...	...	Well	1	2
Upper Lode Locks	...	...	"	1	2
Kennel's Cottage	...	...	"	1	—
The Mythe Hook	...	...	River	3	8
Total				6	12

With the exception of No. 1, Trinity Walk, where the cost of providing a piped supply is almost prohibitive, main supplies are not available.

It is satisfactory to note that only 6 of the houses in the Borough are without main water.

## **SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND REFUSE COLLECTION**

### **Sewerage**

During the past year the sewage works has functioned well, and the filters, having matured, are producing a good effluent. Early in the year, sludge-drying posed the main problem, but subsequently conditions improved under the combined effects of drier weather and modified treatment. As a safeguard against future troubles, a new sludge lagoon was constructed and a 300-gallon tank which had been on loan for several months was purchased.

In an endeavour to trace the infiltration mentioned in the last report, a careful watch was kept on the sewers and defects were discovered at three places. These were made good and, though not solved, the problem is being successfully tackled.

### **Refuse Collection**

This service did not experience any major change during the year though the number of houses from which refuse is collected increased. One difficulty arose from the small amount of material in the refuse suitable for tip-covering. Unless this can be obtained in the form of surplus material from contractors, it must be purchased or dug for and carted by direct labour. The supply from contractors is negligible, so that the cost of covering is expensive. Three tips were used, namely, The Ham, Walton Cardiff and Swilgate. The Ham tip by the weir is a good one, but unfortunately wet weather soon makes the approach track impassable by lorry.

### **Public Conveniences**

The Gentlemen's conveniences at the Municipal Car Park were improved by the provision of two additional water-closets, making three in all. An electrically operated system of exhaust ventilation was installed in the Ladies' conveniences near the Abbey Mill.

### **Public Baths**

The six slipper baths provided by the Council in Mill Street were put to popular use during the year.



### **Swimming Bath**

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor W. Bettany, opened the new children's swimming pool on the 18th May. Not being of the covered type, it was closed at the end of the summer season on the 18th September. It was very popular in the warmer weather, the number of admissions being 8,161 children, including 1,363 from the schools. Regrettably, a cold August adversely affected the number of admissions.

### **Pollution of Rivers and Streams**

Responsibility for the administration and enforcement of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951, rests with the Severn River Board, whose bye-laws controlling river pollution came into force in February.



## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

A summary of the work carried out by the Public Health Inspector is tabulated below:

**Table 8**

		No. of Inspec's	Notices Served		Defects Remedied after Notice	
			Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling Houses	...	294	61	12	57	10
Milk and Dairies	...	16	3	—	3	—
Factories, etc.	...	24	4	—	4	—
Bakehouses	...	17	2	—	2	—
Food Premises	...	119	31	—	29	—
Slaughterhouses	...	209	—	—	—	—
Water Supplies	...	57	24	8	24	4
Drainage and Sewerage...	...	36	11	1	11	1
Infectious Disease	...	7	—	—	—	—
Pests	...	49	3	—	3	—
Miscellaneous	...	103	9	—	9	—
Totals	...	931	148	21	142	15

### Shops Act, 1950

The Council's part-time Inspector reports that, during the year, there were no contraventions of the Act in so far as closing hours were concerned.

The Public Health Inspector, who secures compliance with those provisions of the Act relating to health and welfare, made twenty-one inspections which revealed the need for remedial action in four cases.

### Offensive Trades

There are no offensive trades in the Borough.

### Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951

One upholsterer is registered under the Act.

### Petroleum Consolidation Acts, 1928–1936

The premises and storage facilities of the sixteen licence-holders were inspected during the year. Three minor defects or omissions were disclosed and promptly righted.

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

One licence was granted to a breeder of pet dogs. Though the breeder's kennels have been kept in a clean and satisfactory condition, three complaints of noise from puppies yapping on his premises had to be looked into.

### **Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952**

### **Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953**

No contraventions came to light during the year.

### **Canal Boats Acts and Regulations, 1877-1925**

#### **Smoke Abatement**

No complaints were received during the year.

### **Disinfestation (Bed Bugs, Fleas, etc.)**

Four infestations were treated with smoke generators and spray insecticides.

### **Camping Sites**

The Council own two sites:

1. Vineyards Park. This site is used by campers mainly during August and has a capacity of 150 tents. At the end of the year, a sanitary block housing three water closets for each sex and wash basins served by piped mains water was under construction.

2. Municipal Car Park. Close to this site are Public Baths and Conveniences. Up to 30 caravans may be accommodated on the site.

There is one privately owned site for 16 caravans. It is licensed under the Public Health Act, 1936, and approved by the County Planning Authority.

## RODENT CONTROL

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The joint service provided by a rodent operative employed by Cheltenham Rural District Council has worked smoothly and efficiently.

A summary of work performed in the Borough appears hereunder.

**Table 9**

Property	Inspections	Treatments
Private Dwellings ...	23	17
Council Houses, Allotments, etc. ...	7	3
Farms ...	18	10
Business Premises ...	86	48
Refuse Tips and Sewage Works ...	15	27
Total ...	149	105

As usual, pre-baiting and poisoning at selected points in the town's sewerage system was carried out with success twice during the year.

### Details of Work carried out on Refuse Tips and Sewage Works

**Table 10**

Property	Action Taken	Result
Gander Lane Tip ...	Pre-baited and poisoned Eight treatments	Satisfactory
Walton Cardiff Tip ...	Pre-baited and poisoned Eight treatments	Satisfactory
Oldfield Tip ...	Pre-baited and poisoned Six treatments	Satisfactory
Severn Ham Tip ...	Pre-baited and poisoned Five treatments	Satisfactory
Sewage Works ...	Four Inspections	Satisfactory

Part of the cost of this service is recovered as follows:

**Private Dwellings:** A small contribution is made by the Tenant and the balance is the subject of a 50% Ministerial grant.

**Business Premises and Farms:** The Council has a contractual obligation to effect treatment at ten of these premises. Treatment at the other premises is conditional upon payment of full cost.

**Council Property:** Half the cost is borne by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.



## HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(a) By the Local Authority:				
(i) Temporary prefabricated	...	...	Nil	
(ii) Permanent non-traditional	...	...	Nil	
(iii) Permanent traditional	...	...	12	
(b) By other authorities	...	...	Nil	
(c) Tewkesbury Housing Society	...	...	Nil	
(d) Private Enterprise	...	...	3	
			Total	15

### Council Houses under construction on 31st December, 1957

Traditional Houses:

Canterbury Leys	...	...	...	54
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### Programme for 1958

Completion of the 67 houses in the contract for the Canterbury Leys Estate at Newtown.

### Number of Dwellings controlled or owned by the Council (up to 31st December, 1957)

(i) Under the various Housing Acts	...	654	
(ii) Corporation Property	...	...	8
(iii) Lock-up Shops	...	...	9
			671

Included in (i) are 47 dwellings (19 one-bedroomed bungalows and 28 one-bedroomed flats) suitable for occupation by aged persons.



## Statutory Action during the year with respect to totally unfit houses

### 1. *Housing Act, 1936, Section 11—Demolition Orders.*

(a) Number of demolition orders recommended ... ..	7
(b) Number of demolition orders made by Council ...	7
(c) Number of undertakings accepted not to use dwellings for human habitation ... ..	4
(d) Number of houses on which a demolition order was operative but where application for reconditioning was accepted (Section 5, Housing Repairs and Rents Act) ... ..	Nil
(e) Number of houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action ... ..	4

### 2. *Housing Act, 1936, Section 25—Clearance Areas.*

(a) Number of houses demolished in Clearance or Com- pulsory Purchase Areas ... ..	31
(b) Clearance Orders made during the year ... ..	Nil
(c) Clearance Orders under consideration ... ..	Nil
(d) Compulsory Purchase Orders made during the year...	Nil
(e) Compulsory Purchase Orders under consideration ...	Nil

### 3. *Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.*

(a) Number of houses closed as a result of Closing Orders	12
---	----

## Overcrowding

One case of overcrowding in a house let in lodgings came to the notice of the Public Health Inspector in December and was reported to the Council in January, 1958.

## Clearance Areas

No Clearance Orders were made in 1957.

## REPORT ON RE-HOUSING PROGRESS

Vacations of existing houses and the completion of 12 new houses made possible the rehousing of 38 families during the year, of whom 15 were living in unfit or "slum" properties. Additionally, 47 tenants were transferred to accommodation better suited to their needs as expressed in terms of location, size and rent.

The policy of encouraging transfers has undoubtedly diminished under-occupation, though upheaval, absence of familiar surroundings and the upset of change deter many—particularly the elderly—from seeking a move to smaller accommodation; and the dearth of old people's bungalows in Priors Park is no less a barrier too.

The number of applicants on the waiting-list, details of which are analysed below, increased by 43 during the year. The effect of the Rent Act, 1957, in relating rents of privately owned houses to house size as reflected in the rateable value, and the knowledge that the rents of Council houses represented remarkably good value in comparison, prompted many "overhoused" private tenants to apply for Council accommodation, particularly of the one-bedroom type.

### Waiting List at 31st December, 1957

Applicants' Requirements	No.	%	Place of Residence	
			In Borough	Outside
Old People's Bungalows ...	36	12	30	6
One-bedroom Accommodation ...	100	34	73	23
Two-bedroom Accommodation ...	90	30	59	31
Three-bedroom Accommodation	61	20	29	32
Four-bedroom Accommodation ...	11	4	7	4
Totals ...		298	202	96

### House Construction in the Borough Since the War (1st April, 1945, to 31st December, 1957)

By the Borough Council	...	425
By Private Enterprise	...	79
Total ...		504

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Details of food premises in the Borough are given in the under-mentioned Table.

**Table 11**

Type of Business	Total Number	No. of Inspect's	No. Reg. S16 F. & D. Act, 1955
Cafes and Canteens	20	32	17
Grocery and Provision Shops, Sweets and Chemists	52	15	—
Ice Cream Vendors	34	22	34
Butchers' Shops	9	19	9
Fishmongers (Fried and Wet Fish)	4	5	2
Bakehouses	3	17	—
Licensed Premises and Hotels	26	26	—
Dairies	1	—	—
Totals	149	136	62

The dairy houses a pasteurising plant and is therefore subject to regular inspection by the County Public Health Inspectors. Food premises regarded as "factories," such as bakehouses, are also visited by H.M. Inspectors of Factories.



## MILK SUPPLIES

Supervision of the production of milk at dairy farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Licensing of the local pasteurising plant and the methods of heat-treatment carried out therein come within the jurisdiction of the County Council.

The Council's powers under the Milk and Dairies Regulations for halting the spread of milk-borne disease were not invoked during the year. Some credit for this must doubtlessly be attributed to the prohibition of the sale of non-designated raw milks by the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1954.

Tables 12-14 give details of the number of licensed dealers, registered distributors and retail milk samples.

**Table 12                      Issue of Licences for Milk Dealers**

Classification of Milk		Dealers' Licences	Supplementary Licences
Tuberculin Tested	...	15	—
Pasteurised	...	15	—
Sterilised	...	2	—

**Table 13                      Milk Registrations**

No. of Milk Distributors Registered	...	16
No. Dairy Premises Registered	...	1

**Table 14                      Retail Milk Sampling**

Nature of Test	Result of Examination	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Methylene Blue (keeping quality) ...	18	—
Phosphatase (effic. of pasteurisation)	18	—

As the last table indicates, the local milk supply may be considered to be in safe hands.

### Meat and Other Foods

There is one privately owned slaughterhouse in the Borough where, as will be seen from Table 15, 1,878 animals were slaughtered during the year, all of which were inspected by the Public Health Inspector. This 100% inspection may be considered very satisfactory.

Three slaughtermen's licences were issued during the year.



**Table 15    Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part**

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats	Horses	Total
Number killed (if known) ... ..	262	38	72	846	633	—	—	1851
Number inspected ...	262	38	72	846	633	—	—	1851
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci								
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	56	16	4	28	31	—	—	135
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	21.4	42.1	6.9	3.4	5.1	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only :								
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	17	6	—	—	21	—	—	44
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	6.5	16.0	—	—	3.3	—	—	—
Cysticercosis :								
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight of meat or organs condemned for :-	lbs.
(i) All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci	1160
(ii) Tuberculosis ... ..	786
(iii) Cysticercosis ... ..	—

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Notification is made to this Department when hotels, shops or individuals have any food which is suspected of being unsound. Table 16 records the foodstuffs examined and declared unfit for human consumption.

**Table 16**

Article	Non-Preserved	Preserved (tinned)
Meats ... ..	380 lbs.	103 lbs.
Milk and Cream ... ..	—	14 „
Fish and Fish Cakes ... ..	14 lbs.	4 „
Fruits (various) ... ..	—	41 „
Vegetables (various) ... ..	—	22 „
Miscellaneous ... ..	—	14 „

Total weight of foodstuffs: approx. 5½ cwt.

Meat condemned at the local slaughterhouses, details of which are given on page 20, is not included in the above table.

### Ice Cream

There are thirty-four registered vendors of ice cream in the Borough; only two of whom are manufacturers and both use the cold mix method. The rest retail pre-packed “hard” ice cream manufactured outside the Borough. One itinerant tradesman comes into the Borough to sell “soft” or “loose” ice cream from a van which has been specially constructed to facilitate hygiene.

Fourteen samples of ice cream were obtained from vendors to determine the standard of cleanliness. The results are shown in Table 17, and very commendable they are, too.

**Table 17**

Type of Ice Cream	Grade				Total
	1	2	3	4	
Complete Cold Mix (Unwrapped)	1	3	—	—	4
Heat Treated (within the Borough) „	—	—	—	—	—
Heat Treated (outside the Borough) (Unwrapped)	1	2	—	—	3
Heat Treated (outside the Borough) (Wrapped) ... ..	5	2	—	—	7
Totals	7	7	—	—	14

### Adulteration

Sampling food and drugs for the detection of adulteration, abstractions, substitutions and false descriptions, and for the checking of compositional standards and quality, is undertaken by the County Council’s Sampling Officers.

# ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Table 18 Inspections for the provisions as to health

Premises	No. of Premises in Registr	No. of Inspect'ns	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecut'd
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	3	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	43	20	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excl. outworkers)	6	2	—	—
Total .	52	24	4	—

Table 19 Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of Defects Found	No. of Defects Remedied	No. of Defects Referred to by H.M.I H.M.I.		No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness Sec. 1 ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding Sec. 2 ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. Sec. 3	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation Sec. 4	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffect. drain. of floors Sec 6	—	—	—	—	—
Latrines. Sec. 7					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not inc. Homework)	—	—	—	—	—
Total...	4	4	—	1	—

Table 20 Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out- workers in Aug. list as required	No. of cases of default in sending lists	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	Cases of work in unwhole- some premises	Notices Served	Prosecu- tions
Wearing Apparel (making)	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total ....	1	—	—	—	—	—



## **INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

Table 25 shews the incidence of notifiable infectious disease by age groups.

There was a good deal of measles during the year and a lesser amount of whooping cough. Except for these two diseases the amount of notifiable infectious disease was very low.

### **Diphtheria**

This Council started a diphtheria immunisation scheme for the Borough in 1937, and in 1940 responsibility for the scheme was taken over by the County, when it was officially recommended by the Ministry of Health.

As a result of immunisation, which is of course still very necessary, diphtheria has been practically eliminated and there have been no cases in the Borough since 1946.

### **Whooping Cough**

Immunisation is carried out by a County scheme started in 1955.

### **Polio (Acute Poliomyelitis)**

Vaccine for immunisation was made available by the Ministry of Health early in 1956. The County Council immediately formulated a scheme but owing to shortage of vaccine only limited immunisation was possible in that year.

In 1957 supplies improved and I was issued with about 5,500 doses of British vaccine for my three districts, each child requiring two doses. This still was not enough so large supplies of Canadian and United States of America Salk vaccine are being made available in 1958.

The aim now is to immunise all children born in the years 1943 to 1957, expectant mothers, and others whose occupations are a special risk.

Although there was a considerable amount of polio in the country as a whole, there were fortunately only two cases notified in the Borough.

### **Small Pox and Typhoid**

There were no small pox or typhoid contacts notified during the year.

### **Food Poisoning**

No cases were notified during the year and this may be considered very satisfactory.

### **Influenza**

During the autumn there was an epidemic of Asian flu in the country, which reached Gloucestershire in October.

The outbreak was severe while it lasted and the following figures are of interest. They are claims for sickness benefit received in the Cheltenham office of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance which includes this Borough. The increased numbers may probably almost all be due to influenza.

Sickness claims received week ending:

Sept. 17th	...	...	235
Sept. 24th	...	...	432
Oct. 1st	...	...	662
Oct. 8th	...	...	1,005
Oct. 15th	...	...	1,373
Oct. 22nd	...	...	1,021
Oct. 29th	...	...	737
Nov. 5th	...	...	488
Nov. 12th	...	...	315

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOLS

Table 21 shows the incidence of infectious disease in schools as obtained during term time from head teachers.

It cannot be considered accurate, but it gives a fair general picture. In some schools for example, flu was considered as a cold and not reported, whereas in others, colds were called flu.

Table 21

School	Av'r'ge No. on Regis'r	Scarlet Fever	Mea'l's	Wh'ng Cough	Chi'k'n Pox	Mu'ps	'Flu
Trinity Walk (C. of E. Infants)	179	—	24	14	—	—	58
Barton Road (County Junior)	134	—	—	1	—	—	—
Oldbury Road (C. of E. Junior)	161	—	—	1	—	—	—
Queen Margaret's (County Primary)	269	—	32	1	—	—	—
Chance Street (Sec. Modern)	503	1	—	—	1	1	—
Southwick Park (Grammar)	181	—	—	—	—	—	35
Church Street (Girls High)	157	—	—	—	—	—	18
Total	1584	1	56	17	1	1	111

In accordance with the recommendation of the Joint Memorandum issued by the Ministries of Health and Education, it was not considered necessary to close any schools because of Infectious Disease.



## TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis is becoming a much less serious disease, due partly to earlier diagnosis (mass radiography), new drugs and improved surgery, but also due to improved living conditions in which better housing and less poverty play a very large part.

In 1957 the death rate in England and Wales for tuberculosis was 0.107 per 1,000 population, compared with 0.18 in this district.

**Table 22** This Table shews the new cases, in transfers and deaths from Tuberculosis, for the last 23 years

Year	Pop. of Borough	New and I.T. Cases	Per 1000 Pop.	Deaths	Per 1000 Pop.	No. on Register	Per 1000 Pop.
1935	4537	4	0.88	5	1.1	30	6.6
1936	4441	5	1.12	5	1.12	30	6.72
1937	4357	4	0.91	4	0.91	26	5.9
1938	4334	11	2.53	4	0.92	25	5.7
1939	No Annual Reports or figures available						
1940							
1941							
1942	4830	8	1.65	1	0.20	40	8.3
1943	4589	3	0.65	2	0.43	43	9.4
1944	4431	9	2.03	3	0.68	51	11.5
1945	4401	8	1.81	3	0.68	40	9.1
1946	4540	5	1.10	1	0.22	36	7.9
1947	4614	6	1.29	4	0.86	36	7.8
1948	4856	6	1.24	1	0.20	33	6.8
1949	5111	6	1.17	1	0.19	34	6.6
1950	5247	2	0.38	1	0.19	32	6.1
1951	5233	10	1.90	—	—	36	6.8
1952	5446	11	2.02	1	0.18	39	7.1
1953	5408	7	1.29	—	—	43	7.9
1954	5410	4	0.74	—	—	41	7.6
1955	5380	4	0.74	1	0.18	39	7.2
1956	5400	9	1.67	1	0.18	42	7.8
1957	5500	7	1.24	1	0.18	45	8.2

### Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 172)

No action was necessary under the above Regulations and Act.



### Re-housing of Tuberculosis Cases

Unsatisfactory housing is reported to the Housing Committee and of 45 cases of tuberculosis in the Borough, 26 are living in Council houses.

### Tuberculosis After Care

A Joint Committee serves this district, the Borough of Tewkesbury and the Rural District of Gloucester.

Funds are dependent on voluntary subscriptions which are very usefully augmented by the County Council, from the charity levy on the Sunday opening of cinemas. No necessitous case has been refused assistance.

**Table 23**

**New, In-Transfer Cases, Deaths and Number remaining on the Register on 31st December, 1957**

	Respiratory		Meninges/C.N.S.		Other Forms		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
New Cases	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
In-transfer Cases	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Deaths	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
On Register 31.12.57	21	23	—	—	1	—	45

### CANCER

**Table 24**

Death rates from Cancer per 1000 population :—

	England and Wales		Tewkesbury Borough	
	M	F	M	F
Cancer of the Lung, etc.	0.759	0.116	0.91	Nil
Other Cancer	1.553	1.775	0.73	0.55

Table 25 NOTIFICATION OF INFECTION DISEASES IN 1957 BY AGE GROUPS

Disease	0÷	1÷	3÷	5÷	10÷	15÷	25÷	45÷	65÷	Age N.K.	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	2	7	9	15	1	...	...	...	...	...	34
Measles (excluding G.M.)	2	24	22	69	1	...	...	...	...	...	118
Ac. Poliomyelitis (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis (N.P.)	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	4
Tuberculosis (Meninges)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis (Other)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Encephalitis (Inf.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Encephalitis (Post. Inf.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Acute Pneumonia (Prim. or 'Flu)	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Para-typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria (contr. E. W.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	4	31	31	86	3	...	4	...	1	...	160

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH IN 1957

Table 26 gives the causes of death in the Borough in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948.

**Table 26**

Causes of Death				Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	1	...
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...
8	Measles	...	...	...	...
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...
10	* Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	1	1
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	...	...	5	...
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	3	1
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	1
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	4	8
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	3	3
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...
20	Other heart disease	...	...	4	7
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	2	2
22	Influenza	...	...	1	...
23	Pneumonia	...	...	1	3
24	Bronchitis	...	...	3	...
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	1	...
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	1	...
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	4	8
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	5
35	Suicide	...	...	1	...
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...
Total				35	39

EXPLANATORY NOTE: \* Neoplasm equals cancer.





### Incidence of notifiable Infectious Diseases since 1898.

[illegible][illegible]







THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO